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Comment: Much of what is reported below as current fact appears to represent possible Soviet intentions.)

Soviet Artillery

1. The Soviets place more faith in artillery units than in any other type of unit. Taking their cue from the significant role played by artillery in the last war, the Soviets have considered most urgent the development of a strong, motorized, and highly mobile artillery force.
2. Source reports that there are approximately 30 modern motorized artillery divisions. In addition to these 30 divisions there is a special group of 9,000 motorized guns of large caliber.
3. An additional group of 15 divisions is in the process of being organized. These divisions will be furnished with trucks. They will constitute the artillery support for Soviet infantry which will be motorized and equipped with modern means of transportation. Each of these 15 motorized artillery divisions will have attached to it a regiment (sic) of fighter planes which will be responsible for covering the flanks of the infantry units which are being supported.
4. Altogether, the Soviet artillery will amount to about 100 divisions, including anti-aircraft artillery.

Anti-aircraft Artillery

5. Considerable attention has also been given to the development of anti-aircraft artillery. A new 127 mm cannon with a range of 8,000 meters is now in use in anti-aircraft units. These guns, which are called "surprise cannon", are unusually mobile and are fitted with the most modern sighting devices. The Soviets place great faith in them as defenders of Soviet industry.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

- 2 -

6. "There are about 28 divisions of Soviet anti-aircraft artillery.
7. Almost all of these divisions have searchlight detachments which are equipped with new searchlights. The latter are about two meters in diameter. Each searchlight unit has its own mobile central electric generator. In addition to new cannon, Soviet anti-aircraft units are armed with heavy machine guns which fire six rounds at every shot (sic).
 (Comment: Perhaps this means that six barrels are mounted on one mount.)

25X1A6a

Infantry

8. It is estimated that there are about 150 divisions of infantry in the Soviet Army. These divisions are furnished with new types of weapons developed since the end of the Second World War. They are exceedingly mobile and almost entirely motorized.
9. The rifles with which the individual infantryman was equipped in the last war are now being replaced by sub-machine guns. Moreover, the number of heavy sub-machine guns has been increased to the ratio of one to every four soldiers, and there is now one heavy machine gun to every ten infantrymen.
10. There has been an important change in the composition of recently formed infantry units. In every infantry battalion there has been placed a special anti-tank detachment, about equal to a company in strength. This detachment is armed with the most recent type of modern weapons, including a new 25 mm anti-tank rifle.
11. The anti-tank company which is attached to an infantry regiment has recently been furnished with a new type of weapon, a 98 mm cannon which is reportedly very effective in piercing tank armor. These cannon have been recently observed to be quite common in units destined for anti-tank defense. (Comment: It seems unlikely that the Soviets would use two guns so nearly alike in caliber as the 98 mm and the 100 mm.)
12. A recent change has been made in the basic organization of an infantry regiment. In addition to the standard anti-tank company, an artillery battalion has been added to the regiment. These artillery battalions are armed with new 75 mm, 127 mm, and 150 mm cannon.

25X1A6a

Motorized Infantry

13. Great care is taken in the organization of units of the motorized infantry. Soldiers for these units are picked on a more selective basis than ordinary infantrymen. There are reportedly 40 divisions of motorized infantry. These 40 divisions are included in the total figure of 150 infantry divisions given above. The motorized units are called "units of Proletarian Infantry".
14. Each regiment in a motorized division has in its basic organization one battalion of anti-tank artillery capable of carrying out independent, offensive actions, one battalion of field artillery, one anti-aircraft battalion, and one battalion of mortars. The mortar battalion is equipped with new grenade launchers, more powerful and more destructive than those in use during the last war.
15. The individual soldier's weapons in a motorized infantry unit differ from the regular infantryman's. Each soldier will be furnished with a light sub-machine gun. Each group of three soldiers will have a light machine gun, and every group of twelve will have a heavy machine gun of a new type.
16. Large elements of Caucasians are found in the motorized forces.

Soviet Tank Forces

17. Soviet tank forces have been re-grouped into 30 tank divisions. These 30 divisions are organized as follows:

a. Eight divisions of heavy tanks (54 and 100 ton tanks)

b. Twenty-two divisions of light tanks (some very light and others

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

- 3 -

18. It is reported that Soviet military authorities have recently decided not to increase the number of tank divisions, since it has been proved in the past that every tank costs more to construct than 15 guns with trucks required to move them. In weighing the relative merits of nearly four complete batteries of artillery versus one heavy tank, Soviet military authorities have definitely decided in favor of the artillery. A major effort is being made to develop a mobile artillery force. On the other hand, no effort is being made to expand the present tank force.

Soviet Airborne Infantry

19. There are 20 divisions of airborne troops and 10 divisions of paratroopers. All of these troops are under the command (sic) of a German general who was formerly in command of German paratroop forces. The main objective of these troops is the destruction in as short a time as possible of enemy atomic energy installations.
20. The equipment of these 30 divisions is very up-to-date. Each soldier is armed with a special machine gun, very short and light. These troops also are supplied with heavy machine guns, bomb-throwers, and artillery pieces which may be reassembled easily and quickly after they have been dropped.

Soviet Marine Corps

21. The present Soviet Marine Corps is composed of ten divisions made up of young elements which have been trained in all the techniques of the service for about two years; namely, in landing on enemy territory, in defending coastal positions, and in other amphibious tasks. The Marine Corps is reported to be responsible for guarding the entire coast of the Soviet Union.
22. The landing ships with which the Marines are supplied are very similar to American types and probably were based on plans used for the construction of American types. It is not easy to estimate the total number of landing craft in use; a large number of them are still in the process of construction. Three hundred and fifty medium tonnage ships will probably be in operation at some future time.
23. The weapons of the Marine Corps units are identical with those of the motorized divisions. In general, the marines are well supplied with arms. Moreover, they are given the most recent types. As soon as each new piece of equipment is developed, it is sent to the marines in order that they may become familiar with it.
24. Besides the amphibious troops, there are airborne units in the Marine Corps. These troops are assigned the task of holding a position for a short time and preparing it for the landing of other Marine forces.

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